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STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE AND REMEDIATION

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FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: Oct. 6, 1993TO: Wayne HedbergAGENCY/FIRM: Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & MiningFAX NUMBER: 359-3940FROM: Steven ThiriotPAGES TO FOLLOW: 9

COMMENTS: _____

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NOTES FROM CONVERSATION WITH BILL DAWSON, SOUTHWEST
DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT, REGARDING THE STATE LINE
MINE LOCATED NEAR MODENA, UTAH

and

Additional Summary Information on the Site from File
Information and Other Sources, Including David J. Garrick,
One of the Current Owners of the Site

September 21, 1993

J. Steven Thiriot

Division of Environmental Response and Remediation

Bill Dawson (586-2437) of the South West District Health Department in Cedar City, Utah, called me on Sept 14, 1993 and reported the following regarding the State Line Mine:

The State Line Mine is located approximately 18 miles northwest of Modena Utah, near the Utah-Nevada state line. The mine was the site of a mining community that existed in the late 1800's and early 1900's, but work has continued at the mine in recent years under the name of Kinetics Minerals, Inc. One of the owners of Kinetics Minerals is reportedly in prison out-of-state, and another owner is in bankruptcy at another out-of-state location. The mine appears to be abandoned at the present time.

Three or four barrels of cyanide, some containers of hydrochloric acid and copper sulphate have been left at the mine. These are located in an easily accessible room of the large dilapidated mill building that exists on the site. The cyanide was used in the recent past in the reprocessing of mill tailings for gold. A cyanide tailings pond and cyanide tailings exist on the property. A stream is also located on the property.

Will Mead (586-0221), who Dawson thinks is a Utah Highway Patrolman in the southern Utah, recently called Dawson and complained that he observed six year old children (it wasn't clear, but they may have been his own children) playing in the old mill building and he is very concerned about their possible exposure to the cyanide and other chemicals in the building. He was very upset and threatened to complain to the Governor if the site is not cleaned up and made safe. Dawson said the Iron County Commission has also received complaints on the site in the past and is very interested in seeing the site cleaned up.

Wayne Thomas has tried to determine the owners of the State Line Mine property, but has not had any success. He was not able to find any current ownership information in the records of the Iron County Recorder's Office.

Dawson referred the Site to the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste about a year ago, and Don Verbica and Jim Wangsgard of that Division have been working on the site.

I agreed to pursue the site further, by first making contact with the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste.

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Conversation with Jim Wangsgard, Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste on 9/14/93

Jim Wangsgard inspected the site on April 6, 1992 with representatives of the Southwest District Health Department. He took a number of photos of the site, which I borrowed and copied. He also provided copies of four or five documents related to this site which are described in chronological order below.

He reported that the mill building is riddled with bullet holes and he is concerned that the cyanide and/or acid barrels may be hit by gun fire while individuals are shooting through the building.

During his inspection of the site, Jim Wangsgard found a hand-written note on the property dated August 17, 1991 which stated approximately the following:

"To whom it may concern, the assessment work is being completed on all the holdings belonging to Gold Dome Mining Company."

Signed "David J. Garrick"

Wangsgard stated that DOE (the U.S. Department of Energy) acquired some land "above" the State Line Mine.

Mack Croft of the Division of Water Quality did work on the permit issued for the cyanide tailings pond.

Wangsgard thinks that because of the note indicating assessment work is going on at the site, the chemicals of concern at the site are product, and not waste. As a result, he does not think that the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste have a regulatory handle on cleaning up this site. He said Solid and Hazardous Waste is willing and anxious for us (CERCLA) to cleanup the site, but we do not have anything in writing to that effect.

Wangsgard related his understanding that the property of State Line Mine was recently sold at an Iron County Sheriff's Sale, and that the Iron County Sheriff's office claims to have lost the records of who bought the property. He thinks that one of the sheriff's deputy's, a Dayle Gardner from Newcastle, Utah, is somehow involved. This Dayle Gardner may also be associated with Gardner Drilling of Newcastle, Utah, who made, or is now making, the assessment improvements on the site.

File Information For Site Provide by Jim Wangsgard of the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste:

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- 11/13/89 Letter to Kinetic Minerals from Don Ostler, Bureau of Water Pollution Control. Letter reports that based on inspection of cyanide tailings pond, the pond liner has puncture holes and has about 1 year to 18 months useful life remaining. Cyanide tailings pond and tailings are a hazard to small wildlife, and to wells downgradient of the pond. This letter was apparently returned and marked "Undeliverable".
- 12/26/90 Letter to Wayne Thomas, South West District Engineer, from Don Ostler. Letter provides analyses for water sample Thomas collected from the cyanide tailings pond, and states that because of the lead levels in the water, it is considered potentially hazardous, particularly for small animals and birds. Letter also states BLM is unsure site is on their property, or on patented land which was recently sold at a Sheriff's sale. Analyses for the water sample were included with this letter.
- 5/14/91 Copy of letter to Robert Morgan, State Engineer, from Dianne R. Nielson, Director of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining. Letter states site was active after 1977, but was never permitted or bonded due to its size. As a result there are not DOGM funds set aside for reclamation of this site.
- 9/17/91 Handwritten note from David Garrick indicating that assessment work was being done on this site by Gold Dome Mining Company.
- 4/6/92 Photocopies of 31 photos taken of the site by Jim Wangsgard. Several photos were taken of the chemicals and cyanide tailings pond on the site. Original photos are in the possession of the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste.
- 6/18/93 E-Mail memo to Don Verbica, Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste from Jim Wangsgard of the same division. The memo is stamped "Internal Document - Not for Release". The memo summarizes information from the above correspondence and provides Wangsgard's understanding of the site and its ownership. Wangsgard states that Joe Burns of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining stated in a personal communication that the site was formerly owned and operated by DOE. The letter also identified all the agencies that may have an interest in the site.

Conversation with David J. Garrick

CERCLA is currently doing work on a CERCLIS site known as Gold Dome Mining located in Orem, Utah. I pulled the file and found the name of David J. Garrick listed as the

*under
a
DOE
provision.*

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owner/operator of Gold Dome Mining and Milling Co.

Based on the above information, I made a very brief call to David J. Garrick and asked him some preliminary questions concerning the site.

David J. Garrick of Orem, Utah, and Marshall McDaniel ((310) 640-1960) of Los Angeles, California are the present owners of the State Line Mine. David J. Garrick's address is:

David J. Garrick
819 E. 700 S.
Orem, Utah 84057
Telephone (801) 226-8938

Garrick reported that all or nearly all of the State Line Mine is located on a patented claim of BLM land. He and his partner just paid their assessment on the claim of about \$6,200. I informed him that we were concerned about cyanide and other chemicals that have been left on the property because children and others who may be entering the building may be potentially exposed to those chemicals. He said he wasn't aware that chemicals had been left at the mine site, but was aware there was one locked room in the mill which he had not been able to get into that may have been broken into. He said he had large boulders recently placed in the road leading to the mill building with a bulldozer to prevent people from driving to the building. The placement of these boulders in the road apparently does not prevent entry to the mine site by foot.

"patented" claim
do not
require assessment work!

He said the previous owner of the mine may have left the chemicals at the site. He said that LaVar Hollingshead, who operates a small mill in Pioche, Nevada, did some previous work at the mine site, and may have left the chemicals at the mine site. (I am quite certain that Hollingshead actually lives in nearby Panaca, Nevada, where I was raised.) He thought Hollingshead was associated with Kinetic Minerals, the previous owner of the site.

Garrick knew nothing about DOE owning any mining property in the area of State Line Mine. I also asked him if the State Line Mine had any connection with the East Summit Mining Claim Site, which is on the CERCLIS List. He said he had never heard of that site.

I informed Garrick that we would be making future contact with him regarding the chemicals at the site.